

## Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-13 RSR-01 /122 W  
----- 050255

R 260600 Z JUN 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1995

INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0406

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS SF MZ

SUBJ: NON- PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN MOZAMBIQUE

REF: PRETORIA 2033

1. ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE THIS OFFICE SUPPORTS EMBASSY  
PRETORIA' S COMMENTS PARA 3 REFTEL. DURING AT LEAST EIGHT  
VISITS TO NORTHERN AREAS OF MOZAMBIQUE, I HAVE NEVER SEEN  
SIGNS OF ANY SOUTH AFRICAN DEFENSE FORCE TROOPS OR POLICEMEN,  
OTHER THAN OCCASIONAL STRAY VISITING OFFICIAL.

2. FAIRLY LARGE NUMBERS OF SOUTH AFRICANS, PROBABLY ONCE  
NUMBERING IN HUNDREDS, HAVE BEEN CARRYING OUT UNDERGROUND  
EXCABATIONS AT CABORA BASSA UNTIL QUITE RECENTLY. THEY COULD  
CONCEIVABLY HAVE BEEN BASIS FOR RUMORS OF S. A. MILITARY PRES-  
ENCE. HOWEVER, WITH COMPLETION OF MOST EXCABATION WORK, THIS  
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NUMBER HAS NOW DWINDLED TO 43, INCLUDING WORKERS, WIVES AND  
CHILDREN.

3. PORTUGUESE THEMSELVES HAVE THUS FAR GIVEN NO INDICATION

THEY INTEND TO INVITE SOUTH AFRICAN, RHODESIAN, OR ANY OTHER, OUTSIDE MILITARY OR POLICE FORCES TO JOIN THE FIGHTING IN MOZAMBIQUE. ON CONTRARY, THEY TAKE PRIDE IN HAVING STEMMED THE TIDE ALONE, AND DO NOT WANT TO WEAKEN THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY ARE WINNING BY CALLING IN OUTSIDE HELP. THEY ALSO ARE RELUCTANT TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES TOO OPENLY WITH NEIGHBORS WHOSE RACIAL POLICIES THEY DO NOT SHARE. THIS IS NOT TO DISCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY, SHOULD FIGHTING SPREAD FAR ENOUGH SOUTH, THAT THERE MIGHT NOT SOME DAY BE AMPLIFIED COOPERATION IN S. A. BORDER AREAS ALONG LINES OF PRESENT ARRANGEMENT WITH RHODESIA ALLOWING MUTUAL CROSSING OF EACH OTHER'S BORDERS BY RESPECTIVE MILITARY FORCES IN HOT PURSUIT OF GUERRILLAS.

4. FINALLY, PORTUGUESE SAY THEY ARE IN PROCESS OF EXPANDING THEIR ARMED FORCES IN MOZAMBIQUE FROM APPROXIMATELY 50,000 TO 60,000 EFFECTIVES, WITH MOST OF INCREASE CONSISTING OF BLACK SPECIAL GROUPS (GES). MANPOWER IS THUS NOT A PROBLEM AT PRESENT.

5. IN OUR VIEW, SITUATION WOULD HAVE TO GET A LOT WORSE BEFORE PORTUGUESE WOULD CONSIDER ASKING FOR SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS.  
VAN OSS

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DAR ES SALAAM  
DURBAN  
JOHANNESBURG  
LISBON  
LONDON  
LUANDA

LUSAKA  
PRETORIA

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